

**Approved**  
(corrected 12/9/13)

**Town of Brentwood  
Budget Committee**  
Minutes of November 18, 2013

*Present:* Elyse Seeley (Chair), Bill Faria, John Lyon, Bob Mantegari, Dianne Vosgien, (School Board Representative), Jeff Bryan (Selectmen Rep).

*Absent (excused):* Malcolm Allison, Krista Steger

*Visitors:* Crystal Buswell, Kathy Carson, Ken Christiansen, Bob Gilbert, Betsy Solon, Cathy Blaisdell.

Chairperson Elyse Seeley called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

1. Motion to approve draft minutes from November 4, 2013. Jeff/John, Approved 5-0-1 Abstention (Dianne).
2. Select Board has advised that the tax rate has been set at \$23.88 per thousand of assessed value as noted in a handout. This includes use of \$311,435.00, reserve, and to retain \$950,988 (7%) reserve for 2014.
3. Reviewed the Residential Sales, transfers, and permits handout to date.

**BUDGETS:**

1. **Budget Committee Budget – 4150-10** – Motion to approve in amount approved by Selectmen of \$700.00, Bob/John, approved 6-0.
2. **Executive Office – Town Administrator – 4130-02** – Motion to approve in the amount of \$87,395.00, Bob/Jeff, this includes a 2% COLA and a merit increase which amounts to \$3,000.00 total salary increase, a 5.26% increase. Also a health insurance increase. Motion to approve, Jeff/Bob, approved, 4-2
3. **Financial, Tax & Assessing – Assessing – 4150-07** – Motion to approve in the amount of \$32,276.00, Bob/Jeff, approved, 6-0. (Increase tied to utilities issues pending court case)
4. **Waste Disposal – 4324-29-396** - Motion to approve in amount of \$279,197.00, Bob/John, approved 6-0. (Increase is tipping fees for landfill)
5. **Insurance – 4196-11** - Motion to approve in amount of \$84,775.00, Bob/Dianne, approved 6-0.
6. **Planning & Zoning – Zoning – 4191-14** - Motion to approve in the amount of \$840.00, Dianne/Bob, approved, 6-0.
7. **Planning & Zoning – Planning Board** – Motion to approve in the amount of \$91,524.00, Jeff/Bob. This increase includes a 2% COLA, and a 3% merit raise; a total of 4.27% increase. No raises have been given in three years. Approved, 4-2,
8. **Legal – 4153-12** – Motion to approve in the amount of \$37,002.00, Jeff/Bob. Increase is related to pending court cases. (Pine Road case is continued.) This amounts to a 73% increase, approved 5-1.
9. **General Government – 4199-15** – Motion to approve in the amount of \$35,875.00, Dianne/Jeff, approved 6-0.

10. **Fire Department** – Fire- 4220-19 – Motion to approve in the amount of #350,319.00, Bob/Dianne. The increase is mainly due to a second full-time employee, salary, retirement and insurance. Approve, 4-2,
11. **Fire Department – Ambulance** - 4215-18 – Motion to approve in the amount of \$106,679.00, Jeff/Bob. This is almost a total in and out as ambulance fees cover almost the total budget, approved 6-0.
12. **Library** – 4550-49 – Motion to approve in the amount of \$219,098.00, Jeff/Bob. Jeff pointed out that more than 2/3 of the town uses the library, and the staff includes 1 full and 8 part time employees. This increase also includes fire system maintenance and inspections. Approved, 4-2.

### **New Business**

1. Jeff (Selectmen Rep) says they are still involved in legal case ongoing. We will be required to complete a 100% assessment of the town in 2015 and the Board would like to submit a warrant for ½ of the estimated costs of the assessment.
2. School Board Chair Dianne provided us a draft of the Swasey budget for review and discussion at our next meeting.
3. She advised the Board that there may be a large increase in Special Ed tuitions and related costs next school year. They are exploring the possibility of a capital reserve WA for this possible unanticipated expense. Also this is a new contract year for the teachers. Elyse will ask Amy from SAU 16 to visit at our next meeting, December 9.
4. Elyse (as Coop BudCom Rep) advised that there are three contracts pending for CMS and EHS. In addition the Coop School Board has requested between 7-11million for an addition to CMS and school a/c. Also @1 million increase for Special Ed.

### **Public Comments**

None

8:02 pm Motion to adjourn, /Bob/Dianne, approved 6-0

Minutes respectfully submitted by William C Faria